

Message Text

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42

ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 ISO-00 OIC-02 RSC-01 EB-04 AID-05

HEW-02 OES-02 AGR-05 AEC-05 LAB-01 CU-02 COME-00

OMB-01 TRSE-00 ABF-01 SS-15 SP-02 L-01 H-01 NSC-05

EPA-01 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-06 SWF-01 /094 W

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R 291405Z OCT 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8917

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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MONTREAL FOR ICAO

PARIS FOR UNESCO

ROME FOR FODAG

NAIROBI FOR UNEP

VIENNA FOR UNIDO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG

SUBJECT: GENEVA GROUP (GENERAL) MEETING OCTOBER 24, 1974

REF: A. GENEVA 6441; B. STATE 232187

1. GENEVA GROUP (GENERAL) MEETING CHAIRED BY UK AND ATTENDED BY REPS
ALL MEMBERS AND OBSERVER MISSION TOOK PLACE OCTOBER 24 AT USMISSION.

2. AGENDA COMPRISED FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA FOR GG/
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CLXXI SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 4-5 (REFTEL A).

3. US REP EXPLORED DEPT SUGGESTION (REFTEL B) TO ATTEND GG/CLXII THROUGH NOON OF FEB 6, THUS MAKING IT A 2 1/2 DAY MEETING. ALTHOUGH DECISION WAS DEFERRED, MISOFF EXPECTS SUGGESTION WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO GG.

4. BEFORE REVIEWING GG MEETING, MISOFF WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT GUIDANCE ON TWO AGENDA ITEMS PROPOSED BY NETHERLANDS AT OCTOBER 10 GG (GENERAL) MEETING (REFTEL A, PARA 4, SUB-ITEMS 5 AND 7). BOTH SUB-ITEMS 5 AND 7 RATHER STRONGLY PUSHED BY NETHERLANDS. UK AND OTHERS NOT ESPECIALLY FOR EITHER AGENDA ITEM. US REP HAS NOT YET COMMITTED HIMSELF.

5. DISCUSSION FOLLOWED ON EACH AGENDA ITEM PROPOSED AT OCTOBER 10 GG (GENERAL) MEETING (PARA 4, REFTEL A).

6. UNDER AGENDA ITEM 1 (K), NETHERLANDS INQUIRED AS TO NEED FOR GG (UNEP). AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, UK REP SUGGESTED NO REAL NEED FOR GG (UNEP) BUT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO PRODUCE PAPER ON HOW CO-ORDINATION WORKS WITHIN UNEP. UK SUGGESTED CANADA MIGHT BE WILLING TO DO REPORT BECUASE IT IS "VERY WELL EQUIPPED ON ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS". CANADA HAD NO OBJECTION BUT WONDERED HOW IMPORTANT OTTAWA WOULD VIEW SUBJECT. QUESTION MARK ON UNEP, ITEM 1 (K) WAS REMOVED FROM AGENDA LIST AND CANADA WILL INFORM GG NEXT MEETING ON OTTAWA REACTION. CANADIAN REP ALSO STATED WILLINGNESS TO DO ILO REPORT (REMOVE QUESTION MARK UNDER ITEM 1 (D) FOR CANADA), BUT EXPRESSED DESIRE TO DO REPORT ON SOME OTHER SPECIALIZED AGENCY NEXT YEAR.

7. ITEM 2, NO COMMENT.

8. ITEM 3, NO COMMENT.

9. ITEM 4 (A) RESULTED IN DISCUSSIONS WHETHER OR NOT TO ELIMINATE PHRASE "... INCLUDING A REVIEW OF EXPENDITURES". FGR REP SAID DELETE IT; ITALIAN REP, RETAIN; UK, "TOO AMBITIOUS", AND SUGGESTED PHRASE BE REWRITTEN TO "... INCLUDING A REVIEW OF EXPENDITURES RESULTING FROM CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS", GG ACCEPTED NEW PHRASE.

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10. UNDER ITEM 4 (B), AUSTRALIA REP REPORTED WILLINGNESS TO DO SPECIAL REPORT ON ROLE OF ECOSCO IN POLICY AND PROGRAM COORDINATION IN THE UN SYSTEM, THUS REMOVING FROM AGENDA ITEM 4 (B) PHRASE "... (REPORT MAY BE DONE BY AUSTRALIA)".

11. NO FINAL DECISION YET MADE ON ITEM 5 PROPOSED BY NETHERLANDS, ON TWICH MISOFF REQUESTS DEPT VIEWS. ORIGINAL AGENDA ITEM READ AS FOLLOWS: "STRUCTURE AND METHODS OF WORK OF UN

SYSTEM IN THE LIGHT OF THE FORTHCOMING 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, INCLUDING RELEVANT DISCUSSIONS IN ECOSOC AND ITS POLICY AND PROGRAM COORDINATION COMMITTEE AND RESULTS OF 29TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE SUBJECT" (AGENDA ITEM AS HERE WRITTEN NOT, REPEAT NOT, IN REFTEL (A). AFTER MUCH DUSCUSSION, SUGGESTION WAS MADE BY UK AND US REPS TO SHORTEN AGENDA ITEM TO : "STRUCTURE AND METHODS OF WORK OF UN SYSTEM IN THE LIGHT OF THE FORTHCOMING 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY", BUT THE NETHERLANDS TO USE WHOLE TITLE IN ITS REPORT AND TO WRITE ON RESULTS OF 29TH SESSION, EVEN THOUGH THIS WILL DELAY SUBMISSION OF REPORT UNTIL MID-JANUARY, 1975. AGENDA ITEM 5 WAS THEN CHANGED TO TIEM 4 (A) ON SUGGESTION OF NETHERLANDS. VARIOUS REPS SUGGESTED FINAL NETHERLANDS REPORT COULD BE SENT DIRECTLY TO CAPITALS BECAUSE OF LATE COMPLETION. DECISION ON WHOLE SUBJECT DERERRED TO NEXT GG (GENERAL) MEETING.

12. ITEM 6 BECOMES ITEM 5. UK SUGGESTED GENEVA GROUP (ROME) MIGHT BE WILLING TO APPEND COVER REPORT TO WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE REPORT TO BE DONE BY NETHERLANDS, TO WHICH GG REPS AGREED.

13. ON AGENDA ITEM 7, NOW ITEM, 6, MISSOFF HAS ASKED FOR DEPT VIEWS. CANADIAN REP BELIEVES IT NOT NECESSARY TO HAVE CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN MEMBERS OF MISSIONS OF GENEVA GROUP COUNTRIES IN NEW YORK, AS SUGGESTED BY NETHERLANDS. UK REP DOES NOT THINK AGENDA ITEM 7, NOW ITEM 6, IS IMPORTANT FOR GG (GENEVA). NETHERLANDS DISAGREED. FRG REP ASKED THAT AGENDA ITEM BE RETAINED. UK AND US REPS EXPRESSED SOME SKEPTICISM. UNK REP PROPOSED ITEM 6 BE PUT UNDER AGENDA ITEM 1 (1), GENEVA GROUP (GENEVA) GENERAL, AND BE REWRITTEN WITH NOTE TO EFFECT: NETHERLANDS DELEGATION PROPOSES TO RAISE UNDER THIS AGENDA ITEM "CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN MEMBERS OF MISSIONS OF GENEVA GROUP COUNTRIES IN NEW YORK IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RELEVANT CONCLU- LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SIONS IN THE NOTE OF THE 11 TH CONSULTATION LEVEL MEETING". NETHERLANDS REP STATED THIS WOULD "PROBABLY BE ACCEPTABLE". GG MEMBERS WERE ASKED TO OBTAIN VIEWS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS, SO THAT QUESTION COULD BE RESOLVED AT NEXT GG MEETING.

14. ITEM 8, NOW ITEM 7, WAS DELETED FROM AGENDA AT REQUEST OF FRG REP WHO STATED HIS GOVERNMENT NOW FEELS THE PROBLEM WILL ONLY BE DEALTH WITH AT THE 19TH SESSION OF UNGA IN 1975, THIS MAKING IT AN AGENDA ITEM FOR THE GG/CLXIII. FRG WAS DULY APOLOGETIC FOR LATENESS OF HIS GOVERNMENT'S DECISION ON THIS AGENDA ITEM.

15. UNDER ITEM 9, NOW ITEM 8, NO COMMENT.

16. UNDER ITEM 10, NOW ITEM 9, CANADIAN REP RAISED "TWO ITEMS OF INTEREST" HE SUGGESTED WERE LEFT OVER FROM GG/CLXI MEETING: 1) ONE ON PROGRAM BUDGETING AND THE BIENNIAL BUDGET CYCLE, AS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY GRG; 2) THE OTHER, MONETARY FLUCTUATION, AS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY SWITZERLAND. CANADIAN REP INDICATED HIS CAPITAL HAD THOUGHT BOTH AGENDA ITEMS WOULD COME UP FOR DISCUSSION IN THE GG/CLXII MEETING. FRG REP STATED WILLINGNESS TO DO REPORT. UK REP STATED NEED TO ADD "PROGRAM BUDGETING AND THE BIENNIAL BUDGET CYCLE" TO AGENDA FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AT THE GG(ILO) MEETING ON OCTOBER 29, AFTER MR. DENBY'S ILO PRESENTATION. MEANWHILE, UK REP SUGGESTED THIS AGENDA ITEM MIGHT BE ADDED TO AGENDA ITEM 3 AS FOLLOWS: "REPORT OF WORKING PARTY ON LONG-TERM PLANNING, TO INCLUDE ALSO FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF PROGRAM BUDGETING AND THE BIENNIAL BUDGET CYCLE--- CF, PARA 15A OF NOTE ON GG/CLXI MEETING," TO WHICH ALL GG MEMBERS APPEARED TO BE IN AGREEMENT. AS FOR THE ORIGINAL SWISS PROPOSAL ON MONETARY FLUCTUATION, NO RECORD OF IT WAS FOUND IN GG/CL NOTES OF LAST YEAR. SWISS OBSERVER REPORTED NO NEED TO HAVE IT ON THIS YEAR'S AGENDA. ALTHOUGH CANADIAN REP STATED HIS CAPITAL WAS NOT PRESSING FOR EITHER AGENDA ITEM, UK AND US REPS THANKED CANADIAN REP SULLIVAN FOR OTTAWA'S ALERTNESS.

17. HAVING CONCLUDED DISCUSSION ON AGENDAL ITEMS PROPOSED FOR GG/CLXII MEETING, SWISS OBSERVER RESPONDED TO OBSERVATIONS OF US REP ON OCTOBER 10 GG (GENERAL) MEETING WITH REGARD TO "EXCESSIVE PAPER FLOW IN UN SYSTEM"--- NOT REPORTED IN REFTEL (A). US REP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HAD SUGGESTED CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ELIMINATING/REDUCING SUMMARY REPORTS; ELIMINATING MINUTES OF MOST MEETINGS; ELIMINATING PREAMBULATORY PARAS IN MOST RESOLUTIONS, DOUBLE-SPACED REPORTING, EXTENSIVE QUOTES, ETC. SWISS OBSERVER REPORTED HIS CAPITAL WAS IN AGREEMENT WITH US REP'S SUGGESTIONS FOR UN SYSTEM. SUBJECT WILL BE BROUGHT UP AT GG MEETING IN EARLY DECEMBER FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION. MEANWHILE, MISOFF WILL CIRCULATE TO GG MEMEBERS AND OBSERVERS FURTHER OBSERVATIONS OF US REP ON THIS SUBJECT.

18. FINAL ITEM. FOR REPORT AUSTRALIA HAS AGREED TO DO ON ROLE OF ECOSOC IN POLICY AND PROGRAM COORDINATION IN UN SYSTEM-- SEE AGENDA ITEM UNDER 4B OF REFTEL (A)--- IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT AUSTRALIA RAISE POSSIBILITY OF ECOSOC REMAINING IN VERY FREQUENT, IF NOT CONTINUOUS, SESSION.

19. NEXT GENEVA GROUP MEETING(ILO) ON OCTOBER 29.
ABRAMS

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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